

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MAY 24, 2005

County Counsel, on behalf of The Department of Children and Family Services, has notified Michael Nash, Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Juvenile Court that they will no longer comply with requests for Out of Home Care Evaluation Unit (OHCEU) reports. These reports are considered in active tort investigations for children who are under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Dependency Court.

OHCEU reports are designed to insure that children under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Juvenile Dependency Court have competent legal representation to pursue potential tort claims while under juvenile court jurisdiction. The legal authority falls under Welfare and Institution Code section 317 (e), which requires a child's Dependency Court attorney to "investigate the interests of the child beyond the scope of the juvenile proceeding and report to the court other interest of the child that may need to be protected by the institution of the other administrative or judicial proceedings."

Judge Nash has expressed serious concerns regarding the change in policy being made by DCFS.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Children and Family Services and County Counsel to brief the Board as a set item on June 7, 2005, at 11:00 a.m., regarding the decision to no longer comply with Out of Home Care Evaluation Unit reports as required by the Los Angeles Juvenile Court.

#

MDA:kblsc

MOTION

BURKE _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

MOLINA _____